Our Modern Juggernaut.

[New Orleans Times-Democrat.]

Who has not seen, about 8:30 o'clock in the morning, a procession of white-faced, hollow-chested little girls on their way to school? It is early morning and they might be supposed to have a refreshing sleep, yet they look worn and heavy-eyed, and in their walk there is none of the elastic spring of youth. They have not the buoyant air that one is wont to associate with childhood, but more as though they were burdened with the cares of a long and unhappy life. They skip not, neither do they laugh or jump, but drag wearily along, seldom lifting their joyless glances from the ground.

With their fingers they clutched huge packages of school books, and upon their fragile arms hang baskets or buckets containing luncheon which, if they have the appetite to eat, they evidently have the vitality to digest. No foot-sore dromedary swaying mournfully through desert sands beneath the indescribable vertical sun of the Soudan, ever groaned beneath a burden so disproportioned to its strength as these children, in a civilized age and by the connivance of civilized parents, are compelled to bear day after day through years of their unhappy lives.

The curriculum of the average modern school is to the children of this enlightened land what the car of Juggernaut was to the benighted Hindus. Its remorseless wheels, impelled by as cruel and ignorant a superstition as ever reigned within a Brahmin's breast, roll over those helpless little forms, crushing out health and joy, dimming the brightness of these baby eyes, and blighting the blossom on the rounded cheek. It is applied to all omers as the bed of Procrustes was to every luckless captive who fell into the monster's hands. Feeble or strong, robust or delicate, quick or halting, ambitious or reluctant, all are forced into that appalling mould and fitted to it violently, no matter how much of health or happiness, even life, may be the cost.

Practical Metaphysics.

[New York Graphic.]

Don't drum on the desk with your fingers or "joggle" your foot by the hour while sitting down. In so doing you are expending strength for nothing—to get which you have eaten and slept—strength you need to use to best advantage in buying, selling and getting a living.

Every movement of muscle, whether it accomplishes anything or not, whether voluntary or involuntary, costs an outlay of body strength. Every thought also involves an expenditure of strength. Therefore all thought involving fret, worry, fear, or borrowed trouble is so much strength unprofitably expended. It will waste you away mind and body. You may always tell a man or woman whose existence has always been a life-long fret by their careworn, hollow, emaciated faces. They are never healthy. Fret kills more people than the cholera. It leaks away strength constantly. At last the weakest organ or function gives away. This we call disease. The doctor comes and gives the disease a Latin name. The disease may attack heart, liver, lung, stomach, kidney. But the real and underlying cause had been at work for years in the patient's mind.

You can't help fretting, worrying, borrowing trouble. That makes no difference as to result. Merciless nature takes no account of what you can't help. Possibly you cannot help it. Years of habit may have made worrying "second nature" for you. It may be a habit as hard to break as the "joggle" of your heel while sitting at the desk. Both movements—the physical one of your foot and the mental one of your mind—may have become involuntary. You might call it automatic mind or body action or automatic exhaustion.

Mennonites in the Northwest.

[Pioneer Press "Voices."]

The Mennonites are, in their queer way, the most soundly progressive of the settlers on the Red river. They never caught the spirit of the boom, but they have made ends meet, and expecting not too much have been little disappointed. Outwardly a dull people, they are as sure and quick to seize profitable methods of farming as any of our western landlords. They are leading the way in the use of steam plows, which will, it seems to me, cut a large figure sooner or later in Red river farming. The farmer who can turn under his stubble at the rate of twenty acres a day in August and September, as soon as the harvest is cleared from the field, gains a month's advantage in the spring for every week of work in the fall.

The Mennonites have an old settlement at Waynesboro, in the Pennsylvania end of the Cumberland valley, where a large Mennonite manufactory of agricultural implements has grown up. These people make traction engines and steam plows, and our western Mennonites are buying them as fast as they can. The saving in the long, cold Manitoban winters is a big one. One steam plow saves fourteen horses and seven men. The seven months' feed of this many horses is more than the interest on the cost of the steam plow.

The Mind-Reading "Pin Trick."

[Labouchere in London Truth.]

Take, for instance, the trick of finding a pin, the whereabouts of which is known to the subject. The trick is generally performed in a room full of people, who also know where the pin is concealed. Collusion, therefore, is possible. This, however, is not necessary, for if the performer be adroit he knows where to go, owing to the unconscious indications given by the subject. Nothing is more easy than to prove this. Let the subject be blindfolded instead of the performer, and the latter will never find the pin. I asked Mr. Stuart Cumberland whether he could find a pin under those conditions. Being an honest man and making no pretense to do more than closely follow indications, he replied that he could not.

Appreciation.

[American Home.]

Please do not carry such an air of persecution. You look more and more disagreeable for it, and you are laboring under a great mistake all the while, which everybody but yourself knows. The world will take you just as near what you are worth as it takes anybody, and that is all you ought to expect. That part of the world which you understand will understand you, and what ought you to care for the rest of it? If you carry a clean face into sunshine, that face will reflect sunshine, or vice versa.

A Touch of Nature.

[Exchange.]

Col. Higginson's little daughter celebrated her third birthday recently, and had so good a time that she wished the anniversary would go right on. When she woke up next morning and found the world moving along in the regular, old-fashioned way, she felt as all have felt on similar occasions, and cried out, "Oh, mamma, where is my birthday?"

NEW BRITAIN'S CANNIBALS.

Savages of the Pacific Islands Who Are but Little Known.

[Cincinnati Enquirer Interview.]

In a River Bottom saloon, seated by himself and never mingling in the political discussions of the various callers, was seated a short, strongly built man, whose hair and whiskers were tinged with gray. The barkeeper said he was an English sailor, waiting to go to New Orleans. By dint of a few glasses of grog an Enquirer man infused a little sociability into this chunk of John Bullism, and found in him a man who had visited a part of the world that to civilized people is an unknown and unexplored region. He had cruised three years on an exploring expedition to the islands of New Britain and the duke of York, which lie in the Pacific ocean, east of New Guinea and northeast of Australia. These islands are inhabited by natives, who are cannibals of the worst description, and who are so hostile to white men that missionaries and traders have been alike murdered, chopped up, cooked and eaten by them.

"How did you get out into that country?"

"Why, I was laid up in Australia, and striking Sydney, which is quite a place, I shipped abroad a small vessel of fifteen tons burden, but small as it was it was big enough for the reefs and dangers we went through."

"They are terrible flesh-eaters, are they not?"

"Yes, no doubt of that. They hanker after white man's flesh. They have a chief who has two assistants; one is a talking man and the other a butcher. The first fellow does the talking—praises up the chief—and the latter does the killing and cutting up. They never eat the head, and they let the entails severely alone. The leg and arm bones of men who are their enemies they put in the butt end of their spears, for the natives believe that when this is done it gives them the strength of the man whose bones they carry. Then, again, they think it makes them safe against any wounds which the eaten man's relatives might inflict."

"How do they cure wounds when they are inflicted—by medicine men, like the Indians?"

"On, no. They have surgeons, and their instrument are queer enough. Why, they cut off a man's leg with a piece of obsidian."

"And what's obsidian!"

"Something that comes out of volcanoes. Then they use a shark's tooth and a piece of glass. Now take a broken arm. I've seen a native surgeon treat such a case. He goes to work and cuts the flesh to the bones, then draws the bones into position and puts a piece of bamboo to keep the bone in place, and then binds the wound up.

"What becomes of the bamboo—stays in the wound?"

"Oh, no. It works out after a time, and the wound heals up."

"What medicines do they use?"

"O, they bleed for everything. If a man has got the headache they cut gashes in the skin and let the blood flow, and then stop it with burned lime."

"Have they any religion—any ideas about a future state?"

"That's hard to say. I don't think they have any idea of a God that now exists, but they have got some rude ideas about a superior being that lived at some remote period. One of them once told me, pointing to the mountains and valleys with which the island abounded: 'A big pig rooted them up, and down and made them.' But they have queer ideas about their dead friends, are very superstitious on the subject. For instance, they say they have a good or bad influence on them, and that they go across the water to the moon and then to the stars, which they consider lamps in the sky to guide them."

"But how do they get there?"

"In their canoes, by water. They think the ocean, some way, is connected a way off with the skies."

"How are the dead buried?"

"That depends upon how important they are. If they are of little importance, they are placed in a sitting posture on a reef at low water, where they will, when the tide rises, be carried off by sharks, but generally they are placed in a canoe and buried under ground."

"How about the chiefs?"

"Then they have a time. His body is laid in his canoe, surrounded by scented herbs. His relatives give a great feast and ask in all the neighboring chiefs. The mourners give each visitor a fathom of taboo. The body is covered with cocoanut mats and raised to its resting place in the forked branches of trees. Then dancing begins, and lasts for several nights. Now comes in the use of the talking-man. He goes around to each guest and discourses upon the many virtues of the deceased. Sometimes the chief's head is cut off and the skull preserved by his son and successor, who wraps it up in banana leaves and places it in the hut."

"Do you go back?"

"Not if I know myself."

An Electrical Rainbow.

Regarding an "electrical rainbow," Mr. B. S. Newall, of Ferendene, thus writes to The Nature: "I was one of a deputation of River Tyne commissioners who visited the South Foreland to see the experimental lights now on trial there. We were walking across the field from the lights toward the observing hut No. 2, a distance of about a mile and a half. There was a fog, more or less, and a shower of rain as we were approaching the hut, and every time the electric light from 'A' tower revolved a rainbow, very like a faint lunar bow, made its appearance. I could not see any prismatic color, and the bow was only produced by the large electric light, with carbons of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter. There was no bow visible from the old light, which has carbons about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch square, and none from either the gas or oil lights. I was informed that this was the first time such a phenomenon had been observed.

Milk for Bright's Disease.

[Chicago Inter Ocean.]

Dr. G. Johnson lately told the British Medical association of a patient of his, 55 years old, who had lived upon milk diet for five years. He took a gallon of milk a day, but not a particle of any other food. The treatment cured him of Bright's disease.

Plaster of Paris casts soaked in paraffine can be readily cut or turned in a lathe. They can be rendered very hard and tough by soaking them in warm glue-size until thoroughly saturated, and allowing them to dry.

COMPANY SHOPS.

Mr. M. M. Shoffner, Postmaster and Justice of the Peace, Company Shops, Alamance county, N. C., writes, he has used St. Jacobs Oil for rheumatism, cuts, swelled ankles and knees, pains in the back and sore throat. One or two applications in each case has always cured, and he believes the Great German Remedy is the best in the world. "As long as I can get it," he adds, "I never intend to be without it."

Some Facts About Fur.

[Cincinnati Enquirer.]

One of the most important fur-bearing animals that we have is the common cat, and it is astonishing to know the number used in cheap furs, over 1,000,000 being thus utilized last year. The kinds most preferred are the pure white, and black fat Maltese sell well, while the yellow and parti-colored cat skins are dyed and sold under a variety of fancy names. There is every thing in a name; for example, over 350,000 skunk skins are made up into furs every winter, bought and worn, but not as skunk. They go off as Alaska, sable, Chinese mink, or something of the kind. Ohio and New York provide the most of them and, as in the capture of the lion and tiger, brave men are required. The fur, however, is beautiful, long and glossy, and by no means the cheapest of furs.

The muskrat, over 3,000,000 and sometimes 5,000,000 of which are taken every year, is much used in the manufacture of hats. The New York muskrats are worth 75 cents, while Delaware and Maryland produce an animal worth twice as much. This innocent creature is often utilized by dealers as seal, and, when dyed, so passed upon the public.

Cheap grades of furs are made from the Siberian squirrel, muskrats, rabbits, wildcats, badger and 'coon. Of lion skins 500 are consumed by the trade every year; while 20,000 bears, 500 tigers, 100,000 buffalo, 100,000 chinchillas and 6,000,000 squirrels have been used yearly in various branches of trade. Beavers to the number of 20,000 are yearly sacrificed, and it is safe to say that in fifty years the animals will have become extinct. In all, over half a million foxes are caught yearly, and it would seem that they will follow the same fate.

A Patent Spotter.

[Indianapolis Journal.]

A new cash and ticket indicator is attracting some attention with railroad men. The device has for its object the prevention of a diversion of cash receipts from their proper destination; being intended to prevent conductors from fobbing moneys collected on the trains, and keeping and selling uncanceled tickets, the appliance at the same time furnishing the company with a full and complete record of all passengers carried on the trains, whether they pay cash, present tickets, or hand in trip passes. It consists of a box with a glass front, one of these boxes being placed on a panel between the windows under the rack, for each double seat. In this box the conductor places the ticket, which falls into one of the two upper compartments, and remains in sight in that compartment until the lid is again raised for the reception of another ticket, when the first one falls into the lower compartment, still remaining in sight, but inaccessible by any but the proper agent at the place or station appointed.

As each new passenger takes a seat he drops into the lower compartment the ticket of his predecessor in that seat. A passenger can tell from the "indicator" whether or not a seat is really occupied; and if it is being "hogged" (or occupied by some mythical "friend" of the passenger in the next seat) he can readily disprove the occupancy. At the same time, a passenger who leaves his seat at a station, before his journey's end, has his right seat reserved to him, but he cannot reserve two seats at once in the train.

A Field of Coral.

[Interview with a Diver.]

"One of the most remarkable sights that I observed," remarked the diver, "were the coral beds. From a boat they present nothing unusual—a brown mass of pointed stems or branches—but one day I had the boat placed on the edge of a channel, and gradually walked down into it until I attained the bottom, and I tell you the scene was impressive. I seemed to be in the streets of a city. The bottom upon which I stood was a pure white sand, hard and firm, and perfectly free from coral; but on either side rose a perpendicular wall of the branch coral nearly forty feet high, all the points extending directly outward or toward me, and presenting a magnificent unbroken surface of a rich olive-brown hue.

"Hidden, and only noticed when the coral was broken away, were myriads of sea eggs of echini of all shapes and colors. Some were jet black with spines like needles. Another kind had short spines, and were albinos, or perfectly white. They are eaten in some parts of Italy, and considered a great luxury; but they are not used in Florida. They have no lobsters there, but their place is taken by what they call the cray-fish. It looks like a lobster, only it is a yellow hue, and instead of having two large claws, has two enormous whips or feelers. The great mass of coral was perfectly undermined by these creatures, their whips projecting and waving to and fro continually."

Henry Ward Beecher: There are a great many griefs, springing from various fountains of the human soul, but that by which men feel that they are brought under the derison and contempt of their fellow-men is the most acute and most unbearable of any emotion of the mind.

The British Medical Journal reports a well authenticated case of a canary catching the scarlet fever and dying.

"IN A VERY WEAK CONDITION, SINKING FROM NERVOUS PROSTRATION."

A patient in Mississippi gives this account of a "marvellous change" wrought in her condition:

"Last December I received your Compound Oxygen. *I was in a very weak condition, sinking from nervous prostration.* I commenced its use immediately, leaving off everything else. And *what a marvelous change it wrought in a few weeks!* So rapidly did I improve that neighbors and friends who had been familiar with my complaints for several years *are still full of wonder at my recovery.*"

Our "*Treatise on Compound Oxygen,*" containing a history of the discovery and mode of action of this remarkable curative agent, and a large record of surprising cures in Consumption, Catarrh, Neuralgia, Bronchitis, Asthma, etc., and a wide range of chronic diseases, will be *sent free.* Address DRS. STARKEY & PALEN, 1109 and 1111 Girard street, Philadelphia.

All orders for the Compound Oxygen Home Treatment directed to H. E. Mathews, 606 Montgomery street, San Francisco, will be filled on the same terms as if sent directly to us in Philadelphia.

"Hunting the Wren."

[Detroit Free Press.]

"Hunting the wren" is a custom peculiar to the Isle of Man, near the coast of England. At the Christmas season a wren is caught and suspended from the center of a hoop which has been decorated with evergreens and ribbons. This unfortunate bird has its feathers plucked and is carried by boys from house to house, at each of which a feather is left as a charm. There is great rejoicing over these charms and no sailor would think of going to sea without having one of them on his person. These charms keep off the evil fairy which this poor bird is thought to impersonate.

A PITIFUL FATE!

How a Minister's Good Deed Landed Him in an Insane Asylum—The Story of His Escape.

To the Editor of the Milwaukee Sentinel:

SIR:—I have read a good many stories of late concerning the confinement of sane persons in lunatic asylums, and I am thereby prompted to relate a bit of personal experience.

In the year 1855, while I was serving the Methodist Episcopal Church in a New England town, a neighbor's house took fire. In common with others, I stood on the edge of the roof, passing buckets of water, exposed to intense heat on one side and freezing winds on the other. I took a fearful cold. For twenty-five years it worked havoc in my physical and mental systems. Nevertheless, I continued in my ministerial duties. I preached many a sermon when suffering intense agony. At certain periods, however, I would be comparatively well, and then again, my head would get heavy, my breathing labored, my appetite fickle. I would lose interest in life; feel sleepy at mid-day, and wakeful at midnight. My heart occasionally gave me great concern. Not knowing to the contrary, I attributed this ill feeling to malaria. But eventually mental strength faded away, and I was utterly prostrated, I was cauterized, cupped, blistered, and treated by many physicians in many different ways.

My case was a puzzle as much to my physicians as to myself. For one of them at first prescribed for delirium tremens, and yet I never had tasted intoxicating liquors. Another said I had brain disease, another spinal difficulty, another nervous prostration, heart disease, etc.

My mind eventually gave way, and in 1882 I was confined in the Brattleboro, Vt., Insane Asylum for six months. When I knew where I was, I demanded instant release. I then made a visit to Oceanic, N. J., but I had reckoned too much on my strength. I again lost my reason for a considerable period.

That I was in a desperate condition is evident. My blood had become infected with virus, which inflamed my brain occasionally and doomed me to an early death; for no physician gave me any hope of a cure. I finally found out what my real disorder was, and undertook my own treatment. In a few months I was restored to such a state of health as I never expected to enjoy. That was over three years ago, and my physical and mental health have remained intact to this day.

Last March I came west, and engaged in garden farming. In all that time I have not lost a day's work; have apparently enjoyed the most vigorous health and I expect to live the full term of life. The remedy I used was warner's safe cure, and if I should live a thousand years, I should never tire of telling its praises.

You will confess with me, Mr. Editor, that such a change is remarkable. And you will, also, I am sure, agree with me, when I say that whatever created such a mental and physical restoration is deserving the highest praise.

Very truly yours,
REV. E. D. HOPKINS.

Dodge's Corners, Wis.

There are undoubtedly thousands who have an experience similar to the above, to whom Mr. Hopkin's recital will appeal with persuasive force.

Why can't you depend on a dissipated man? Because he is dizzy-pated.

"OVER AND OVER AGAIN"

Repetition is sometimes the only way to impress a truth upon the mind. Accordingly take notice that Dr. Pierce's "Pleasant Purgative Pelletts," (the original Little Liver Pills) continue to be wonderfully effective in cases of sick and nervous headache, constipation, indigestion, rush of blood to the head, cold extremities, and all ailments arising from obstruction of the bodily functions. Their action is thorough yet gentle, and the ingredients being entirely vegetable, they can be taken with impunity into the most delicate stomach. All druggists.

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About thirty years ago a prominent physician by the name of Dr. William Hall discovered, or produced after long experimental research, a remedy for diseases of the throat, chest and lungs, which was of such wonderful efficacy that it soon gained a wide reputation in this country. The name of the medicine is DR. WM. HALL'S BALSAM FOR THE LUNGS, and may be safely relied on as a speedy and positive cure for coughs, colds, sore throat, etc.

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Loss of appetite, Nausea, bowels costive, Pain in the Head, with a dull sensation in the back part, Pain under the shoulder-blade, fullness after eating, with a disinclination to exertion of body or mind, Irritability of temper, Low spirits, Loss of memory, with a feeling of having neglected some duty, weariness, Dizziness, Fluttering of the Heart, Dots before the eyes, Yellow Skin, Headache, Restlessness at night, highly colored Urine.

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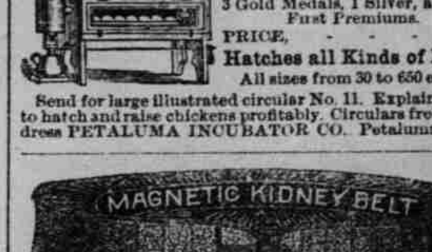

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A Snow-Melting Machine.

[Albany Journal.]

A New York inventor has gone to work in proper season to build and test a snow-melting device designed to clear the streets of that city during the winter. It is a furnace-like arrangement, intended to be drawn through the streets on the railway tracks, and is intended to melt sixty carloads of snow an hour, or as fast as ten men can shovel it in. The railway companies in New York are required to clear the streets of snow, and have heretofore been compelled to pay from 50 to 75 cents a load for carting it away. They have also had much trouble in finding a place to dump it without objection. The machine, it is supposed, will melt the snow so that it can be run off into the sewers, and to do it at less cost than would be involved in carting it away.

Strange Religious Sect.

[Chicago Times.]

In an article on the religious exaltations of the Orient Dr. Zambaco describes the sect of Rafais, who in their religious ceremonies jump, dance, oscillate, and shriek for two hours at a time, until they fall into convulsions. When the excitement is at its height their power of feeling physical pain appears to be lost, for they pierce their limbs and bodies with sharp knives, and often swallow broken glass, living scorpions, and cactus leaves armed with thorns.

Could Tell by the Smell.

[Texas Siftings.]

A fastidious Austin dude has his hair curled twice a week. The tonsorial artist is not very particular, so the young man said:

"I wish you would be a little particular with those curling irons. You should try them on a piece of paper first, and see if they are not too hot."

"I don't need to do that. I can always tell by the smell of the burnt hair, when the irons are too hot."

John Brown's Fort.

[Chicago Tribune.]

Thomas H. Savery, of Wilmington, Del., who recently bought the government property at Harper's Ferry, has put up a wood-pulp mill on the site of the famous arsenal. Mr. Savery was offered $4,000 for "John Brown's fort," the purpose of those who made the offer being to exhibit the relic in connection with a show.

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